

# REGION 6 RICC MEETING MINUTES

October 20, 2008

**Members present:** Cindie Richman, Suzy Heise, Theresa Will, Tammy Hoggarth, Marcia Schneider, and Amanda Lausch

## I. Reviewed Meeting Minutes

The May RICC minutes were read and approved.

## II. Old Business:

Compliance monitoring: There has been no new information on this from the state office. They are still pulling files from our region quarterly to monitor for compliance. We haven't received any feedback on them for some time though.

KIDS and Right Track Website update: a new website for [KidsProgramND.com](http://KidsProgramND.com) is up and running. There isn't a lot on it yet, but things will be added continuously.

Cindie has also started a Right Track website (I didn't catch the website address). She is having a brochure for every age group made up to post to this website so parents can either print it out or screeners can print them out to hand out to parents that list the milestones and what parents can do to help their child.

## III. New Business: Program updates:

Community Action, Tammy Hoggarth, Program Director

Tammy shared that their 0-3 Early Head Start program is full. There are eight infants and eight toddlers in the center-based program.

They are looking for a bridging room for kids who turn three years of age after September 1<sup>st</sup> and have nowhere else to go until a new school year starts. They want to do this in the Jamestown and Valley City center based programs. There are currently 86 kids in the Jamestown center-based Head Start and 52 in the Valley City Head Start.

They have been wanting to start a center based Head Start in Ellendale (3-5 year olds). There are currently five kids interested so they aren't able to offer this classroom at this time. Tammy encouraged everyone to spread the word to help recruit more families.

There is a home based program in all three of these communities also.

Experienced Parent program:

The currently RICC list was passed around to be updated. Marcia also passed around the current Region 6 Transition activity sheet for all to look over and add new things or delete activities that are no longer available. This listing will be reviewed at least twice a year to be

kept current. Marcia will disseminate this listing via email when these minutes are sent out.

Marcia passed around a sheet about a free workshop the Arc is sponsoring called "Connecting for Empowerment". It will be offered twice; once in Fargo and once in Bismarck in November. It is for parents and professionals who would like to know about the legislative process and how to get involved to help bring about change, provide testimony, and advocate for Legislation that is in the best interest of our children and their needs.

There was discussion on the Medicaid Buy-in program. Anyone who is interested needs to call their local social services office and tell them they want to apply for the "Children with Disabilities Program". There has been some confusion in the county offices and some families have been told they don't qualify in error.

Lastly, Family Voices will be taking over the Family-to-Family program and it will be called North Dakota Parent-to-Parent. More info on this will be passed along as it becomes available. Family Voices also has their discussion board up and running. Donene Feist was recently presented a national award from the Robert Wood Foundation for her work with North Dakota Family Voices. This award and monetary distribution is only given out to a small number of people nationwide, so we congratulate her on all of her time and efforts on behalf of kids and families in North Dakota!!

Barnes County Public Health, Theresa Will:

There was discussion on the number of children whom public health sees in any given time frame. This varies. Currently, they are giving flu shots for children 6 months and up. The cost is \$30 and can be paid for with Medicaid or families private insurance. There was also some discussion about how to better inform families about their child's progress. Cindie is going to send some Right Track brochures and prepaid postage postcards to Theresa for their staff to give out to families when they are in the public health office.

Other:

There was something in the Jamestown paper recently about the possibility of Dickey-LaMoure Special Education Unit consolidating with Buffalo Valley Special Education Unit. Rhoda wasn't at the meeting to comment on this so it was just mentioned for our information. More details are likely to follow at a later date.

DD Program Administrator, Suzy Heise:

There were some questions about the Medicaid Waiver. Suzy said that DD screens for Medicaid under the DD waiver for kids under age 3 if they qualify for Early Intervention Services.

The next Region 6 RICC meetings will be: January 12, 2009 and April 20, 2009  
11:30 - 1:30 p.m., Room 124, SCHSC, Jamestown

NOTE: To save printing and postage expense, your updated copy of the Region 6 Transition Activity listing is being sent as an attachment to your email address. You may print it out and use as you choose. If it doesn't come through for someone, let me know.  
Marcia Schneider